

Date

Aaron Johnson  
EMS Director  
Jackson Parish Ambulance Service District  
115 Watts Street  
Jonesboro, LA 71251

**Re: Ethics Board Docket No. 2016-335**

Dear Mr. Johnson:

The Louisiana Board of Ethics, at its May 20, 2016 meeting, considered your request for an advisory opinion as to whether Jackson Parish Ambulance Service District ("District") may use the services of Smith's Body Shop & Wrecker Service ("Smith's"). You stated that Wayne Smith, the sole owner of Smith's, is the father of Josh Smith, a part time employee of the District. Josh Smith also works full time at Smith's as its business coordinator. You also stated that Josh Smith's wife, Jolynn Smith, is employed full time with the District. Finally, you stated that Smith's is the sole provider of wrecker services and auto body collision repair for the Parish of Jackson.

The Board concluded, and instructed me to inform you, that the Code of Governmental Ethics would prohibit Smith's from doing business with the District while members of his immediate family are employed by the District. La. R.S. 42:1113 prohibits public servants, their immediate family members, or legal entities in which they have a controlling interest, from entering into any contract, subcontract, or other transaction that is under the supervision or jurisdiction of the agency of such public servant. La. R.S. 42:1102(13) defines "immediate family" to include a public servant's children, the spouses of his children, his brothers and their spouses, his sisters and their spouses, his parents, his spouse, and the parents of his spouse. Because Wayne Smith is the sole owner of Smith's, it would be prohibited from entering into transactions with the District while Mr. Smith's son and daughter-in-law are employed by the District.

The Board also concluded, and instructed me to inform you, that the Code of Governmental Ethics would prohibit Josh Smith from working for Smith's if it were to do business with the District. La. R.S. 42:1111C(2)(d) prohibits a public servant from receiving compensation for services rendered to any person who has a business, contractual or financial relationship with the public servant's agency.

This advisory opinion is based solely on the facts as set forth herein. Changes to the facts as presented may result in a different application of the provisions of the Code of Ethics. The Board issues no opinion as to past conduct or as to laws other than the Code of Governmental Ethics. If you have any questions, please contact me at (800) 842-6630 or (225) 219-5600.

Sincerely,

**LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS**

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Jennifer T. Land

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THIS IS NOT AN OPINION OF THE  
BOARD OF ETHICS